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**FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

March 20, 2003

TO : U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
ATTN: Examiner Saba Tsegaye (Art Unit 2662)  
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FROM: Mark J. Henry  
RE: Serial No. 09/117,799  
OUR DOCKET: 1454.1255

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**COMMENTS:**

Docket No.: 1454.1255

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Wolfgang FRAAS et al.

Serial No. 09/117,799

Group Art Unit: 2662

Confirmation No. 4083

Filed: August 6, 1998

Examiner: TSEGAYE, S

For: DIGITAL SIGNAL TRANSMISSION SYSTEM

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

VIA FACSIMILE

Sir:

This is supplemental to the Response, which was filed on March 19, 2003, in response to the Office Action mailed December 19, 2002, and having a period for response set to expire on March 19, 2003.

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please REPLACE claims 1 ADD new claim 6 in accordance with the following:

*Sub E* 1. (THRICE AMENDED) A transmission system for transmitting digital signals between a TDM network connected via an exchange termination and TDM-based terminal equipment connected via a line termination, comprising:

*D* an ATM network having user interfaces; connection units, provided respectively at the exchange termination and the line termination to respectively connect each of the exchange termination and the line termination to one of the user interfaces of the ATM network;

conversion units provided respectively at the exchange termination and the line termination, to convert time-division multiplex data into ATM cells, or ATM cells into time-division multiplex data; and

an allocation unit to allocate a virtual ATM channel to each time-division multiplex